



# LPD Quarterly Newsletter

Lowell Police Department

2014: Quarter 2

April—June

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## LPD Increases Bicycle and Foot Patrols

The LPD continued its efforts to reinvigorate the department's community policing efforts by increasing the number of foot and bicycle patrols around the City. LPD Superintendent William Taylor states that this is one of many strategies aimed at increasing focus on community policing. The goal is to get more officers in the neighborhoods interacting with the public.

A total of 24 District Response officers are assigned to bicycle patrols and received special training. The LPD used grant funding to purchase new, specially-designed bicycles, as well as new uniforms for officers on bike patrols.

Officers will patrol the City on their bikes at all times of the day, in most types of weather, until approximately Thanksgiving. The department also

recently introduced new Segway patrols in the Downtown area. The increase in foot, bicycle, and Segway patrols is meant to foster communication between the LPD and the community. Officers on these patrols will focus on interacting with residents and businesses to ensure the department stays informed of the issues that matter most to the people who live and work in Lowell. The LPD firmly believes that partnering with the community is the best way to promote public safety and maintain a high quality of life for all Lowell residents.



## LPD Welcomes 7 New Officers Via Lateral Transfer

The LPD welcomed seven new officers to the force in the second quarter of 2014. On April 14th, Officers Renee Lehmann, Robert Richard, Michael Bouvier and Walter Varey (pictured to the right) were sworn into the department. Then, on June 2nd, Officers Kerri Bomil, Steven Coyle, and Kyle Griffin (pictured below) took their oath of service. The LPD hired the new officers to fill vacancies left by retired officers as well as new officer positions created in the City Budget.



Officers Lehmann, Richard, Bouvier, and Varey



Officers Bomil, Coyle, and Griffin

## Safety Tips: Guarding Against Robbery and Assault

- If possible, don't walk alone during late-night hours. Walk in groups whenever you can—there is always safety in numbers.
- Let a family member or friend know your destination and your estimated time of arrival or return. That way, the police can be notified as quickly as possible if there is a problem.
- Stay in well-lit areas as much as possible. Avoid alleys, vacant lots, wooded areas, and other short-cuts or secluded areas. They are usually not well-lit or heavily traveled.
- Walk on the sidewalk whenever possible. Walk close to the curb, avoiding doorways, bushes, and other potential hiding places.
- Walk confidently, directly, and at a steady pace. Don't stop to talk to strangers.
- Wear clothing and shoes that give you freedom of movement. And don't burden yourself with too many packages or items.
- Always be aware of your surroundings. If you are wearing headphones, don't turn up the volume so high that you cannot hear outside noises.
- Never hitchhike or accept rides from strangers.
- Report any suspicious activity or person immediately to the Lowell Police Department at 9-1-1.
- Avoid carrying large sums of cash, or displaying expensive jewelry in public.

## Motor Vehicle Stop Leads to Weapons Charges



Weapons confiscated during a motor vehicle stop in June.

In response to several shootings within a short time frame in the Highlands neighborhood of the City, Lowell Police Detectives from the Special Investigations Section teamed up with the Massachusetts State Police Gang Unit and patrolled the City together.

As a result of one of their motor vehicle stops in the Highlands, the LPD confiscated three machetes, one billy club, one large hunting knife and one large capacity rifle with 60 rounds of ammunition. A person from out of state was arrested on various weapons charges. Superintendent Taylor stated “This is a great example of the exemplary teamwork between the LPD and the Massachusetts State Police. The LPD will not tolerate the recent violence and will continue to work alongside our partners to make the City of Lowell a safer place.”

## LPD 2014 Training Academy Begins

Monday, June 2nd marked the beginning of another session of the Lowell Police Academy. The Academy is a 24 week program that stresses the fundamentals of being a patrol officer. In order to be awarded a diploma, each student must demonstrate the required knowledge, skills, and abilities in each of the program’s four major components:

- *Community*—focuses on problem solving and crisis intervention.
- *Law*—classes are taught in criminal, constitution, motor vehicle, juvenile, elder and civil law.
- *Tactics*—concentrates on patrol procedures, how to drive emergency vehicles, how to subdue, restrain and handcuff a suspect, and how to use a firearm.
- *Officer*—focuses on ethics, health and wellness, and physical training.

More than 60 Massachusetts police agencies have sent officers to the Lowell Police Academy over the years, including most local departments in Northeastern Massachusetts.





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**Superintendent William Taylor**



WORKING WITH THE COMMUNITY TO REDUCE CRIME, THE  
FEAR OF CRIME, AND TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF LIFE IN  
THE CITY OF LOWELL.



## Upcoming Events

Drug Awareness Event—October (exact date TBD)  
Neighborhood Street Corner Meetings—TBD

## Stories to look for in next edition:

C-FIRE Update  
National Night Out